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Agenda item 7 (g)
**Coordination, programme and other questions:
Joint United Nations Programme on Human
Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency
Syndrome (UNAIDS)**

Algeria,* Andorra, Botswana,* Cape Verde,* Cyprus,* Czech Republic,* Estonia,* Finland, France, Ghana, Honduras,* Hungary, India, Italy, Kenya, Latvia,* Lithuania,* Madagascar,* Malawi,* Mali,* Malta,* Namibia,* Poland,* Senegal, Slovakia,* Slovenia,* South Africa, Sudan,* Ukraine, Zambia* and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Joint United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (UNAIDS)

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1994/24 of 26 July 1994, by which the Council created the Joint United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (UNAIDS), and 2001/23 of 26 July 2001,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director of the Programme,[1]

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] E/2003/66.

Recalling the goals and targets set forth in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS,[2] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session in 2001, and the HIV/AIDS-related goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 2000,[3]

Encouraged by the resolve of Governments to intensify implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS in order to meet the goals and targets contained therein,

Reaffirming the importance of the follow-up process prescribed by the Declaration, which included the setting of specific time-bound targets, which fall due in 2003, 2005 and 2010,

Noting with profound concern that 42 million people worldwide are living with HIV/AIDS and that the HIV/AIDS pandemic claimed 3.1 million lives in 2002,

Expressing serious concern about the continued global spread of HIV/AIDS, which exacerbates poverty and poses a major threat to economic and social development and to food security in heavily affected regions,

Welcoming the establishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the memorandum of understanding concluded between the Programme and the Global Fund,

Acknowledging other national, bilateral and multilateral resources available to fight the HIV/AIDS epidemic and the need to mobilize additional resources,

1. *Urges* the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to intensify their support to Governments, with a view to achieving the goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] as well as the goals and targets contained in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS;[2]

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[2] General Assembly resolution S-26/2, annex.

[3] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

2. *Encourages* Governments to participate in the high-level plenary meetings and informal interactive panel discussion of the General Assembly, which are to be held on 22 September 2003, and which will be devoted to the follow-up of the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session of the Assembly and the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS;

3. *Welcomes* the decisions of the Programme Coordinating Board of UNAIDS, taken in response to the five-year evaluation of the Programme, which set out five cross-cutting functions to apply at all levels of the Programme, namely: (a) leadership and advocacy for effective action on the epidemic; (b) strategic information required to guide the efforts of the partners; (c) tracking, monitoring and evaluation of the epidemic and actions responding to it; (d) civil society engagement and partnership development; and (e) financial, technical and political resources mobilization;

4. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Programme Coordinating Board calling for significantly increased efforts and resources in the unified budget and workplan devoted to scaling up the response to HIV/AIDS at the country level;

5. *Commends* the Programme as a positive example of collaborative action of the United Nations system, and encourages the further refinement of the work of the Programme;

6. *Invites* the Chairperson of the Programme Coordinating Board to continue consultations with the members of the Board and with Observer States in order to further improve the working methods of the Programme, its subcommittees and ad hoc working groups, with a view to further enhancing participation in the work of the Programme;

7. *Calls upon* the Chairperson of the United Nations Development Group to ensure, through the resident coordinators, the inclusion of the country coordinators of the Programme as members of United Nations country teams, in order to strengthen United Nations coordination in the fight against HIV/AIDS at the country level, and to mobilize intensified assistance to Governments in mounting and sustaining effective responses to HIV/AIDS;

8. *Invites* the governing bodies of the co-sponsoring organizations of the Programme, as well as the Programme Coordinating Board, to develop closer links and more effective coordination in order to ensure that clear and effective guidance is provided to the secretariat of the Programme and to co-sponsoring organizations, including through the annual consideration by the governing body of each sponsoring organization of its engagement in the Programme;

9. *Urges* Governments, bilateral and multilateral donors, civil society, the private sector and other partners to increase their funding for HIV/AIDS-related activities, including funding of the unified budget and workplan of the Programme, in order to ensure a level of financial and other resources that are fully commensurate with the multisectoral challenges of the epidemic;

10. *Encourages* the Programme to continue to foster efficient and effective cooperation with financing mechanisms, such as the World Bank Multi-Country HIV/AIDS Program and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, bearing in mind the complementarity of the role of those mechanisms, based on their respective comparative advantages;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2005, a report prepared by the Executive Director of the Programme, in collaboration with other relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, which should include information on progress made in developing the coordinated response of the United Nations system to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, as well as the decisions, recommendations and conclusions of the Programme Coordinating Board taken subsequent to the substantive session of the Council in 2003.